Request for Expedited Procedure
Under 37 CFR § 1.116
Group Art Unit: 2134
Docket No.: Y1929.0085

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Shinichi Morimoto

Application No.: 09/963,261 Confirmation No.: 8415

Filed: September 26, 2001 Art Unit: 2134

For: LAN THAT ALLOWS NON-AUTHENTICATED EXTERNAL TERMINAL STATION TO ACCESS A PREDETERMINED DEVICE IN LAN

Examiner: M. J. Simitoski

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated April 13, 2007, finally rejecting claims 1-10, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	10	- 20* =		x	
Independent	3	- 3** =		x	
First presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)					
				TOTAL	0.00

*not less than 20 ** not less than 3

No additional fee is required.

In the event a fee is required or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 CFR 1.135. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A LAN system for causing a base station that is inside a LAN to determine whether or not to authenticate a terminal station outside of said LAN and to permit said terminal station to access a predetermined server or network-connected device when said terminal station has not been authenticated,

wherein said base station comprises:

an interface portion for making a communication with said terminal station and extracting authentication request information and a reception packet therefrom;

a first authentication managing portion for determining whether or not to authenticate said terminal station for said LAN corresponding to a response from an inner LAN authenticating server responding to said authentication request information received from said interface portion and setting a result of the determination to a first packet distributing table; and

a first packet distributing portion for referencing registered contents of said first packet distributing table for the packet received from said interface portion, transferring the packet received from said interface portion to said LAN when said contents of said first packet distributing table represent that said terminal station has been authenticated for said LAN, and transmitting the packet received from said interface portion to said predetermined server or network-connected device when said contents of said first packet distributing table represent that said terminal station has not been authenticated for said LAN~~, wherein the base station does not broadcast the authentication request information~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The LAN system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said base station further comprises:

a second authentication managing portion;

a second packet distributing portion; and

a second packet distributing table for storing a plurality of destinations,

wherein said second authentication managing portion is configured for determining whether or not to authenticate said terminal station corresponding to said authentication request information and setting a result of a concerned determination to said second packet distributing portion when the result of the determination of said first authentication managing portion represents that said terminal station has not been authenticated for said LAN,

wherein said first packet distributing portion is configured for transferring the packet received from said terminal station to said second packet distributing portion when said registered contents of said first packet distributing table represent that said terminal station has not been authenticated for said LAN, and

wherein said second packet distributing portion is configured for referencing the registered contents of said second packet distributing table for the packet received from said first packet distributing portion and transmitting the packet received from said terminal station to an appropriate server or network-connected device corresponding to a destination to which the packet is distributed.

3. (Original) The LAN system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said first authentication managing portion is configured for issuing an authentication request to an inner LAN authenticating server and setting a response to the authentication request to said first packet distributing table.

4. (Original) The LAN system as set forth in claim 2,

wherein said second authentication managing portion is configured for issuing an authentication request to an inner LAN authenticating server and setting a response to the authentication request to said second packet distributing table.

5. (Currently Amended) A LAN base station for determining whether or not to authenticate a terminal station outside of a LAN and permitting said terminal station to access a predetermined server or network-connected device when said terminal station has not been authenticated, said LAN base station comprising:

an interface portion for making a communication with said terminal station and extracting authentication request information and a reception packet therefrom;

a first authentication managing portion for determining whether or not to authenticate said terminal station for said LAN corresponding to a response from an inner LAN authenticating server responding said authentication request information received from said interface portion and setting a result of the determination to a first packet distributing table; and

a first packet distributing portion for referencing registered contents of said first packet distributing table for the packet received from said interface portion, transferring the packet received from said interface portion to said LAN when the contents of said first packet distributing table represent that said terminal station has been authenticated for said LAN, and transmitting the packet received from said terminal station to said predetermined server or network-connected device when the registered contents of said first packet distributing table represent that said terminal station has not been authenticated for said LAN~~, wherein the base station does not broadcast the authentication request information~~.

6. (Previously Presented) The LAN base station as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

a second authentication managing portion;

a second packet distributing portion; and

a second packet distributing table for storing a plurality of destinations,

wherein said second authentication managing portion is configured for determining whether or not to authenticate said terminal station corresponding to said authentication request information and setting a result of a concerned determination to said second packet distributing portion when the result of the determination of said first authentication managing portion represents that said terminal station has not been authenticated for said LAN,

wherein said first packet distributing portion is configured for transferring the packet received from said terminal station to said second packet distributing portion when said registered contents of said first packet distributing table represent that said terminal station has not been authenticated for said LAN, and

wherein said second packet distributing portion is configured for referencing the registered contents of said second packet distributing table for the packet received from said first packet distributing portion and transmitting the packet received from said terminal station to an appropriate server or network-connected device corresponding to a destination to which the packet is distributed.

7. (Original) The LAN base station as set forth in claim 5,

wherein said second authentication managing portion is configured for issuing an authentication request to an inner LAN authenticating server and setting response to the authentication request to said first packet distributing table.

8. (Original) The LAN base station as set forth in claim 6,

wherein said second authentication managing portion is configured for issuing an authentication request to an inner LAN authenticating server and setting response to the authentication request to said second packet distributing table.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for distributing a packet from a terminal station that accesses a LAN base station from the outside of a LAN, said method comprising the steps of:

determining whether or not to authenticate said terminal station for said LAN corresponding to a response from an inner LAN authenticating server responding to an authentication request issued from said terminal station;

registering an authentication permission with a first packet distributing table when a result of the determination represents that said terminal station has been authenticated;

registering an authentication refusal with said first packet distributing table when the result of the determination represents that said terminal station has not been authenticated;

sending an authentication permission response to said terminal station after registering said authentication permission or said authentication refusal with said first packet distributing table;

receiving a packet from said terminal station and determining which of said authentication permission and said authentication refusal is registered with said first packet distributing table for said terminal station;

transmitting the packet to said LAN when said authentication permission is registered with said first packet distributing table for said terminal; and

transmitting the packet to a server or network-connected device when said authentication refusal is registered with said first packet distributing table for said terminal~~, wherein the base station does not broadcast the authentication request information~~.

10. (Original) The packet distributing method as set forth in claim 9,

wherein said base station has a second packet distributing table for storing a plurality of destinations to which packets are distributed, and

wherein said method further comprises the step of:

referencing the registered contents of said second packet distributing table for the packet received from said terminal station and transmitting the packet received from said terminal station to an appropriate server or network-connected device corresponding to a destination corresponding to the registered contents of said second packet distributing table when said authentication refusal is registered with said first packet distributing table for said terminal.

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Claims 1-10 stand rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5, and 9 have been amended. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant has amended claim 1 and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,819,178 ("Cropper"); claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,873,609 ("Jones") in view of a software architecture for next generation routers ("DeCasper"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As set forth in claims 1, 2, 5, and 6, the authentication request information is sent to an inner LAN authenticating server. The base station determines whether or not to authenticate the terminal station for the LAN corresponding to a response from the inner LAN authenticating server. Further, as set forth in claims 1, 3, 5 and 7, if a terminal is inhibited from being connected with the LAN, the terminal is connected with a predetermined server or network-connected device

In contrast, in Cropper, the authentication request is broadcast in accordance with a standard of roaming. As such, claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 are patentable over Cropper. Further, as explicitly recited in the claims, if the terminal is prevented from being

connected to the LAN, the terminal is connected with a predetermined server or network connected device.

As set forth in Jones, if the terminal is permitted to be connected to a network, than the terminal is connected with the entire network. There is no disclosure of the explicitly recited limitations of the claims discussed above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-10 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2-4 depend either directly or indirectly from, and contain all the limitations of claim 1. These dependent claims also recite additional limitations which, in combination with the limitations of claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references and are also believed to be directed towards the patentable subject matter. Thus, claims 2-4 should also be allowed.

Claims 6-8 depend either directly or indirectly from, and contain all the limitations of claim 5. These dependent claims also recite additional limitations which, in combination with the limitations of claim 5, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references and are also believed to be directed towards the patentable subject matter. Thus, claims 6-8 should also be allowed.

Claim 10 depends from, and contains all the limitations of claim 9. This dependent claim also recites additional limitations which, in combination with the limitations of claim 9, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references and are also believed to be directed towards the patentable subject matter. Thus, claim 10 should also be allowed.

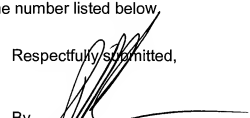
Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: July 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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